

FEB 5 1964

FOIAb3b

CPYRIGHT

The Washington Merry-Go-Round

Pearson Calls Reynolds

'Unreliable'; Baker Figure Denies It

Tells of Previous 'Reckless Charges' By Insurance Man

By Drew Pearson
and Jack Anderson

Don B. Reynolds, the star witness against President Johnson in the Bobby Baker case, has brought reckless charges in the past against people who crossed him, accusing them of being Communists and sex deviates.

He went to the FBI on Oct. 9, 1952, with a list of alleged spies. After a costly investigation, the FBI cleared them all and concluded that Reynolds merely had been taking out his "personal grievances" against the accused.

Indeed, he made so many false accusations that the FBI in May, 1953, turned the tables on him and began an investigation of his own activities. The FBI found that Reynolds, as an American consular official and later an Air Force officer, had not only furnished false informa-



Pearson

tion to the Government but had also:

- Sold various scarce items on the black market in postwar Germany.

- Indulged in promiscuous sex relations with German girls, using his position as a consular official to persuade pretty visa applicants to submit to him.

- Used his influence to get a visa for a German beauty with whom he had been living.

- Made anti-Semitic remarks as a consular official in Berlin at a time when the United States was trying to stamp out anti-Semitism in Germany.

As a result of the FBI findings, the Air Force began proceedings against Reynolds on the same charge that he had brought against so many others—namely that he was a "security risk." He was accused by the Air Force of "lacking morality, discretion, reliability, and trustworthiness."

Informer for Senators

Reynolds promptly went over the heads of the Air Force and FBI to Capitol Hill. He became an informer for the late Sen. Pat McCarran (D-Nev.), who was trying to block the admission of immigrants to this country.

At one closed session, Reynolds launched into charges that the Immigration Bureau

staff that screened immigrants entering this country was loaded with Communists, sex deviates and Jews.

As he started reeling off the names of staff members he regarded as sex deviates, Chairman Arthur Watkins (R-Utah) indignantly called a halt on the ground that the names were hearsay.

But Reynolds ingratiated himself with McCarran, who brought pressure on the Air Force to drop the "security risk" charges. Instead, the Air Force quietly hustled Reynolds out of the service with an honorable discharge.

Reynolds admitted to Government investigators in May, 1953, that he had engaged in black market activities in Germany and that he had used his post as a consular officer to arrange sexual relations with girls seeking visas.

He also admitted that he had arranged a visa for his girl friend to enter Switzerland, then had tried to get her admitted to the United States from Switzerland in order to circumvent the emigration regulations in Germany.

Under FBI cross-examination, Reynolds also confessed that he had threatened a German girl that he would use his "connections" to get her deported if she testified for his wife in a divorce suit.

When the FBI interviewed

Reynolds' associates, they described him as "vicious and malicious," quick to take revenge against anyone who crossed him. He was also described by them as "deceitful and untrustworthy."

The FBI also discovered that he had made false statements to the Government on many occasions.

Senators Naive

In his personal history statement, submitted March 29, 1951, Reynolds claimed to be an outstanding student at Georgetown University's Foreign Service School.

However, the FBI learned from the university's records that Reynolds had not completed his requirements for a BS degree, but was granted a degree on June 9, 1941, because he was going into the Army.

On another Government form, he listed attendance at Georgia Tech, though there is no record at the school of his enrollment.

In May, 1953, he told the FBI that he had been "turned back" from the Military Academy at West Point after contracting pneumonia. The Academy's records showed that he was dropped in January, 1938, for academic deficiency; that he gained readmission, but was discharged again in 1940 for failing in chemistry.

© 1964 Bell-McCarran Syndicate, Inc.

Continued